Province of British Columbia
Ministry of Agriculture and Food

March 1985

1984 FARM & FOOD STATISTICS

B.C. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES

	1981 Census	Estimated 1984
The People		
Number of census farms	20,012	20,000
Population living on farms	68,714	68,665
Provincial population	2,744,467	2,870,695
Number of farms with sales of:		
$ 250 - 1,599	4,039	4,012
$ 1,600 to 9,999	7,923	7,920
$10,000 to 49,999	4,550	4,565
$50,000 and over	3,500	3,503
The Land		
	acres	acres
Provincial land area	220,682,880	220,682,880
Land with potential for agricultural use	36,424,000	36,424,000
Land in Agricultural Land Reserve (1)	11,614,522	11,365,014
Potentially arable area	9,000,000	9,000,000
Area in farms	5,383,428	5,279,340
Area under cultivation	2,338,452	2,406,520
	hectares	hectares
Provincial land area	89,310,362	89,310,362
Land with potential for agricultural use	14,741,000	14,741,000
Land in Agricultural Land Reserve (1)	4,682,192	4,680,361
Potentially arable area	3,642,300	3,642,300
Area in farms	2,178,700	2,137,385
Area under cultivation	946,363	974,300
The Capital		
	$'000	$'000
Value of land and buildings	7,261,012	6,579,736
Value of implements and machinery	693,365	784,205
Value of livestock and poultry	572,003	524,674
Total Capital Value	8,526,380	7,888,615
	$	$
Average capital value per farm	426,000	394,000

(1) Source: Provincial Agriculture Land Commission (at March 31, 1984).

NET FARM INCOME

	1983 $'000	Preliminary 1984 $'000
Cash receipts from the sale of farm products	852,561	910,413
B.C. Farm Income Insurance program	28,177	22,009
Other supplementary and deficiency payments	17,417	24,124
Cash receipts from farming operations	898,155	956,546
Income in kind	21,492	21,679
Realized gross income	919,647	978,225
Operating and depreciation charges	784,594	822,020
Realized net income	135,053	156,205
Value of inventory changes	10,747	3,469
Total Net Farm Income	145,800	159,674

IMPORTANT INDEXES (1981=100)

Year	Farm Input Price Index Western Canada	Index of Farm Prices in B.C.	Consumer Price Index, Vancouver, Food
1975	54.0	62.2	58.6
1976	58.0	63.7	61.0
1977	59.5	66.1	64.7
1978	67.4	75.6	73.0
1979	78.9	86.7	81.6
1980	86.8	93.5	90.1
1981	100.0	100.0	100.0
1982	103.4	102.9	108.2
1983	104.1	102.6	112.8
1984	107.4	106.5	118.5

FOOD PROCESSING

	1981	198	Estimates 1983	1984
Number of food processing firms	466	454	48	439
Value of shipments (bil. $)	2.48	2.49	2.55	2.66
Total number of employees	20,316	18,355	17,485	17,250
Salaries and wages paid (mil. $)	438.1	440.6	468.1	470.8

HISTORICAL FARM CASH RECEIPTS

-$'000,000-

Year	Grains & Oilseeds	Horti-cultural Crops	Cattle & Calves	Hogs	Dairy	Poultry & Eggs	Other	Total
1975	21.8	91.1	70.4	11.4	102.9	72.0	52.8	422.4
1976	22.7	105.4	66.8	9.8	107.7	84.4	78.3	475.1
1977	20.6	128.0	60.1	9.8	116.5	85.4	88.3	508.7
1978	24.1	159.3	88.9	14.5	125.1	94.8	72.9	579.6
1979	29.8	178.1	117.4	18.8	145.6	116.2	63.7	669.6
1980	46.6	189.4	127.1	28.6	174.2	120.3	82.4	768.6
1981	57.6	217.9	115.2	40.8	195.7	142.9	119.0	889.1
1982	45.1	231.9	128.1	51.9	217.2	136.1	132.9	943.2
1983	51.4	222.1	123.1	46.1	217.0	137.4	101.1	898.2
1984	54.5	235.3	133.2	43.3	229.0	148.2	113.0	956.5

FARM CASH RECEIPTS

	1983 $'000	Preliminary 1984 $'000
Wheat	19,803	18,680
Oats	2,131	2,104
Barley	15,306	8,291
Crop insurance, cash advances	2,580	7,941
Canola	14,640	25,172
Rye	349	215
W.G.S.A. (Western Grain Stabilization)	—	1,500
Potatoes	19,060	20,480
Fruits	94,466	94,000
Vegetables	65,223	69,739
Floriculture and nursery	43,350	50,915
Forage seeds	4,926	700
Other crops	25,858	31,133
Total Crops	307,232	331,078
Cattle	99,241	106,016
Calves	23,481	27,232
Hogs	46,142	46,320
Sheep and lambs	1,657	1,836
Dairy products	217,000	229,036
Poultry	77,415	86,551
Eggs	39,970	41,654
Honey	4,556	4,702
Other livestock and products	15,467	15,988
Total livestock and products	345,329	379,335
Forest products	16,032	15,674
Farm Income Insurance	28,177	22,009
Dairy Supplementary Payments	143	137
Deficiency payments	1,272	8,293
Total Farm Cash Receipts	898,155	956,546

FARM EXPENSES & DEPRECIATION CHARGES

	1983 $'000	Preliminary 1984 $'000
Taxes (Property)	14,277	14,903
Gross farm rent	16,038	16,519
Wages to farm labour	130,898	137,547
Total Interest on Indebtedness	147,600	160,168
Less Provincial Int. Reimbursement	8,521	11,036
Net interest on indebtedness	139,079	149,142
Machinery fuel and oil	50,385	54,063
Machinery repairs and other expenses	50,296	52,861
Total machinery expenses	100,681	106,924
Fertilizer and lime	25,193	26,175
Other crop expenses	31,909	32,077
Feed	109,947	119,512
Other livestock expenses	22,856	22,934
Repairs to buildings	12,741	12,652
Electricity and telephone	19,325	19,988
Miscellaneous	52,839	56,139
Total Operating Expenses	675,783	714,534
Depreciation on buildings	36,246	34,434
Depreciation on machinery	72,565	73,052
Total Depreciation Charges	108,811	107,486
Total Operating and Depreciation Charges	784,594	822,020

LIVESTOCK NUMBERS

	July 1, 1983 '000 head	July 1, 1984 '000 head	Percent Change
Bulls, one year & over	17.0	17.0	—
Milk Cows	88.0	88.0	--
Dairy Heifers	39.0	40.0	+ 2.0
Beef Cows	222.0	225.0	+ 1.3
Beef Heifers for breeding	51.0	52.0	+ 2.0
Heifers for slaughter	31.0	30.0	- 3.2
Steers, one year & over	70.0	73.0	+ 4.3
Calves, under one year	230.0	235.0	+ 2.2
Total Cattle and Calves	748.0	760.0	+ 1.6
Sows and Gilts, 6 mo. & over	28.0	28.0	--
Boars, 6 mo. & over	1.8	1.8	--
All other pigs	238.2	245.0	+ 2.8
Total Pigs	268.0	275.0	+ 2.6
Sheep, one year & over	31.0	31.5	+ 1.5
Lambs, under one year	29.0	29.5	+ 1.7
Total Sheep and Lambs	60.0	61.0	+ 1.7

LIVESTOCK MARKETINGS

	1983 head	1984 head
Federally Inspected Slaughter:		
Cattle	72,709	91,912
Calves	15,111	16,940
Hogs	302,198	485,330
Sheep and Lambs	3,003	1,513
Exports of Cattle and Calves to the United States Through Ports of Exit	33,367	33,000

MILK PRODUCTION

	1983 kilolitres	1984 kilolitres
Farm sales of milk and cream:		
for fluid purposes	303,938	304,079
for industrial purposes:		
delivered as milk	163,573	174,816
delivered as cream	758	615
Total Farm Sales	468,269	479,510

PRODUCTION OF SPECIFIED DAIRY PRODUCTS

	Unit	1983	1984
Creamery butter	tonnes	1,877	1,682
Cheddar cheese	tonnes	4,622	5,473
Cottage cheese	kilolitres	5,107	3,494
Ice cream mix	kilolitres	18,415	16,019
Yogurt	kilolitres	4,504	4,698
Whole milk	kilolitres	102,070	87,958
2% milk	kilolitres	157,087	146,800
Skim milk	kilolitres	11,206	12,251
Buttermilk	kilolitres	3,498	3,340
Chocolate Drink	kilolitres	7,562	6,788
Cereal Cream	kilolitres	11,600	11,059
Whipping Cream	kilolitres	3,498	3,352
Sour Cream	kilolitres	2,989	2,769

PRODUCTION OF HORTICULTURE CROPS

	1981 Quantity '000 lbs	1982 Quantity '000 lbs	1983 Quantity '000 lbs	Preliminary 1984 Quantity '000 lbs
Tree Fruits:				
Apples	445,471	386,742	429,799	329,018
Pears	37,301	36,694	32,346	23,462
Peaches	24,844	23,683	25,857	23,084
Apricots	4,314	6,094	4,784	5,699
Cherries	16,040	6,400	16,302	14,744
Prunes and Plums	8,757	6,196	7,509	4,902
Other	270	356	230	159
Total	536,997	468,165	516,917	401,568
Berries and Grapes:				
Strawberries	15,064	16,936	17,936	14,661
Raspberries	18,077	25,638	30,871	29,888
Blueberries	6,552	13,537	14,960	9,880
Cranberries	16,948	15,206	18,000	13,000
Grapes	23,348	33,882	30,000	27,619
Other	402	648	450	465
Total	80,391	105,847	111,950	95,523
Vegetables:				
Asparagus	634	1,085	1,123	610
Beans	9,622	10,798	9,863	12,608
Beets	1,269	2,850	1,719	2,205
Broccoli	8,284	10,653	5,790	7,955
Brussels Sprouts	4,324	10,495	5,445	5,346
Cabbage	12,679	18,130	17,607	17,437
Carrots	10,243	12,779	11,864	11,650
Cauliflower	6,844	13,767	7,123	9,118
Celery	6,979	8,600	9,019	7,427
Corn	26,632	65,083	43,004	39,366
Cucumbers	1,828	2,172	2,212	2,996
Lettuce	12,113	16,411	19,960	19,900
Mushrooms	19,867	25,084	30,465	30,000
Onions	12,109	18,917	18,696	13,152
Peas	12,174	23,429	18,068	23,102
Peppers	297	373	288	285
Potatoes	110,811	155,700	135,220	94,930
Radishes	1,305	1,365	1,705	1,565
Rhubarb	994	1,037	557	630
Rutabagas	5,736	5,287	4,047	7,748
Squash/Marrow/Pumpkin	3,684	5,074	5,627	3,382
Tomatoes	10,015	5,120	5,056	6,215
Total	278,443	414,218	354,378	317,847

POULTRY

	Eviscerated Weight 1983 Metric Tonnes	1984 Metric Tonnes Preliminary
Total Production:		
Chicken	38,061	42,096
Turkey	8,091	8,031
Total	46,152	50,127
	'000 Doz.	'000 Doz.
Egg Production	60,840	58,832

1984 FIELD CROP PRODUCTION

	Area	Yield per Acre	Production	Production
	-acres-	-bu./ac.-	-bushels-	-metric tonnes-
All Wheat	160,000	31.2	5,000,000	136,000
Oats for Grain	60,000	53.3	3,200,000	49,000
Barley	195,000	37.9	7,400,000	161,000
Fall Rye	10,000	37.0	370,000	9,400
Mixed Grains	15,000	46.7	700,000	14,300
Canola	210,000	15.2	3,200,000	73,000
		-tons/ac.-	-tons-	
Tame Hay	740,000	2.57	1,900,000	1,724,000
Silage Corn	25,000	14.00	350,000	318,000

HONEY

	1978-82	1983	1984
Number of beekeepers	5,490	5,900	5,500
Number of colonies	51,300	56,500	57,000
Average yield/colony (kg.)	40	41	43
Total production (tonnes)	2,074	2,332	2,456

PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION CANADA - kgs -

	Beef[1]	Pork[1]	Poultry[2]	Veal[1]	Mutton and Lamb[1]	Eggs[3]
1980	39.6	31.3	22.9	1.4	.82	12.9
1981	40.7	30.1	22.6	1.6	.71	12.7
1982	40.5	27.8	22.7	1.7	.74	12.8
1983	40.1	28.6	22.9	1.7	.82	12.6

1 Basis cold dressed carcass weight.
2 Eviscerated weight of fowl, chicken and turkey.
3 Converted on the basis of one dozen eggs = 0.6804 kg.

PRICES TO PRODUCERS

Livestock:

	1981	1982	1983	1984
		$ per cwt		
Steers A1,2 1000 lb.+, Calgary + South	73.93	73.04	71.54	75.61
Cows, D1,2 Calgary	48.52	46.39	45.56	47.78
Feeder Steers, 800 lb.+,Edmonton	73.20	72.08	73.98	75.70
Hogs, Index 100, dressed Edmonton	67.81	82.23	69.80	68.83
Lambs, A & B, 80 lb.+,Toronto	74.76	74.34	77.78	80.07

Grains and Oilseeds:

	1981	1982	1983	1984
		$ per tonne		
Wheat, Avg. price all grades	195.00	140.43	152.12	143.14
Oats, Avg. price, all grades	98.00	73.36	86.29	84.29
Barley, Avg. price all grades	110.00	94.28	99.25	94.41
Canola, Avg. price all grades	280.00	280.00	270.00	408.29

Dairy:

	1981	1982	1983	1984
		$ per hectolitre		
All sales of milk by farmers	42.98	45.35	47.43	48.40

Poultry and Eggs:

	1981	1982	1983	1984
		$ per lb.		
Chickens, under 2.3 kgs. eviac. wt.	1.13	1.20	1.13	1.21
Turkeys, 5.4-9.0 kgs. eviac. wt.	1.46	1.48	1.45	1.48
Eggs, wtd. avg. all grades	.90	.88	.90	.98

Honey:

	1981	1982	1983	1984
		$ per kilogram		
Farm gate avg., all sales	2.20	2.27	2.01	2.10

Tree Fruits: (1)

	1981	1982	1983	1984
		/lb. for all grades		
Apples	.117	.115	.127	N/A
Pears	.109	.076	.091	N/A
Peaches	.226	.249	.144	N/A
Apricots	.218	.224	.213	N/A
Sweet Cherries	.416	.460	.258	N/A
Prunes & Plums	.093	.119	.047	N/A

Berries & Grapes: (2)

Strawberries	.525	.600	.615	N/A
Raspberries	.711	.840	.430	N/A
Blueberries	.580	.760	.640	N/A
Cranberries	.479	.560	.630	N/A
Grapes	.245	.270	.280	N/A

Vegetables: (1)

Beans (green)	.390	.350	.435	N/A
Cabbage (mid season & late)	.130	.120	.187	N/A
Carrots (topped)	.190	.160	.176	N/A
Cauliflower	.260	.330	.334	N/A
Corn	.180	.150	.147	N/A
Cucumbers (slicing)	.230	.230	.232	N/A
Lettuce (head)	.190	.160	.180	N/A
Mushrooms	1.310	.850	1.420	N/A
Onions (spring seeded)	.150	.120	.137	N/A
Peas (pod)	.590	.490	.539	N/A
Potatoes (mid season & late)	.120	.080	.116	N/A
Tomatoes (hothouse)	.601	.550	.579	N/A

(1) Prices to wholesale agencies for ultimate fresh sale
(2) Prices to processors

THE B.C. AGRICULTURE AND FOOD INDUSTRY

British Columbia's agriculture and food industry is a large and significant element in the provincial economy. It ranks third behind forestry and mining in terms of gross sales and second only to forestry in employment. The agriculture and food industry is a complex, integrated system including suppliers of farm inputs, farmers and farm workers, processing plants, wholesale operations and retail firms. Agricultural products move through the system via a network of road, rail, water and air modes of transportation. In 1984, British Columbia farmers purchased $822.0 million worth of farm inputs in order to produce agricultural products having a farmgate value of $956.5 million. After being transported, processed, graded, packaged and marketed, these products had an ultimate retail value of $2.6 billion.

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

The British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Food has a staff of 308 employees providing a broad range of services to the agriculture and food industry. Approximately one-third are professional agriculturists and the remaining are technical and administrative support staff. The District Agriculturists are located in eighteen offices throughout the province and provide information and advice to anyone interested in agriculture. Specialists in the areas of horticulture, field crops, livestock, poultry, engineering, veterinary science, soil science, entomology, plant pathology, farm management and dairying are available to give technical information to producers. In addition, specific programs are offered including youth development, market promotion, agriculture credit, farm income insurance, resource development (ARDSA), crop insurance and market research and analysis.

To receive information on these and other related topics, contact your nearest office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food:

Abbotsford - General Office	205 - 33780 Laurel Street	V2S 1X4	859-5281
- Engineering	33832 S. Fraser Way	V2S 2C5	853-6451
- Ag. & Food Ctr.	32916 Marshall Road	V2S 1K2	853-3671
- Veterinary Lab	Box 100	V2S 4N8	853-1161
Chilliwack	5 - 8635 Young Road S.	V2P 4P3	795-9471
Cloverdale	17720-57 Avenue	V3S 4P9	576-2911
Courtenay	209-420 Cumberland Road	V9N 5N6	338-7465
Cranbrook	202-135 10 Ave. S.	V1C 2N1	489-3521
Creston	456 Northwest Blvd	V0B 1G0	428-5571
Dawson Creek	1201-103 Ave.	V1G 4J2	782-5931
Duncan	238 Government St.	V9L 1A5	746-6183
Fort St. John	201-9711 100th Ave.	V1J 1Y2	787-1111
Kamloops	162 Oriole Road	V2C 4N7	828-4552
Kelowna	1873 Spall Road	V1Y 4R2	860-3588
Langley	210-20316 56th Ave.	V3A 3Y7	530-5381
Oliver	Court House Box 940	V0H 1T0	498-2420
Prince George	Experimental Farm R.R.#8, RMD 7,	V2N 4M6	963-9685
Quesnel	208-350 Barlow Avenue	V2J 2C1	992-5591
Salmon Arm	Samara Bldg. Box 639	V0E 2T0	832-2088
Sidney	Bldg. 20, Research Station, 8801 E. Saanich Rd.	V8L 1H3	656-0941
Smithers	Government Bldg. Bag 5000	V0J 2N0	847-7246
Summerland	Research Station Box 198	V0H 1Z0	494-0401
Vancouver - Dairy Lab	3705 Willingdon Ave.	V5G 3H3	434-4247
- Land Commission	4940 Canada Way, Room 133	V5G 4K6	294-5211
- Milk Board	800 South Cassiar Street	V5K 4N6	299-5787
Vanderhoof	Church Ave. Box 987	V0J 3A0	567-2563
Vernon	4607-23rd St.	V1T 4K7	545-1387
Victoria - Minister's Office	Parliament Bldgs.	V8V 1X4	387-3656
- Head Office	808 Douglas St.	V8W 2Z7	387-5121
Williams Lake	540 Borland St.	V2G 1R8	392-6261